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Community Center

Volunteers rally to give resale shop a face lift

By Lorraine McClish
staff writer

Second Edition is a very small and intimate resale shop that opened about 15 months ago to give Farmington Community Center a boost in its revenue.

"It is still very small and intimate, but thanks to a lot of volunteers and contributions we've been able to give it a face lift; a new look that makes shopping and browsing a lot more comfortable," said Mary Jo Feezey.

Mrs. Feezey and Virginia Fetterly operate Second Edition now with a crew of about five who sell second-hand clothes on the second floor of the center, located at 24705 Farmington Road.

"And we're being very fussy about it," Mrs. Feezey said, adding that her

neighbors dubbed her Queen of the Garage Sales, for the way she displayed the items in her front yard for shoppers last summer.

Her background retailing for Peck & Peck and as a volunteer for Beaumont Hospital's gift shop gives her merchandising know-how now to lure shoppers into Second Edition.

THE TWO WOMEN'S revamping of the store consisted of a better utilization of the space at hand coupled with "spreading the word of all the things we needed to make things work better here," Mrs. Feezey said.

They received all the fixtures that were on their needed list, a dress form, and several accessories for better display of merchandise.

"The donations came from people who were all as eager as we are to help

Second Edition because they know that every purchase we make helps keep the center functioning," she said.

Second Edition is open from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays and from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays. It is comprised of two rooms that were made into one, plus a third room that is used to receive clothes, sort them, ticket them, and get them ready for display.

It is operated entirely by volunteers under Mrs. Feezey and Mrs. Fetterly's direction.

"Our rules used to be very clean, in season, in good condition and this year's styles. But as the economy worsens we find a lot of shoppers are not too concerned if it's this year's style," Mrs. Feezey said.

"Our biggest customers now are the people who are looking for occasion

clothes, the suit for the 6-year-old boy that might only be worn to one wedding, the party clothes for the teenager that no mother wants to pay \$200 for."

SECOND EDITION differs somewhat from other used-clothing stores in that if an item remains for 30 days without being sold, it is marked down. If it hasn't sold at the end of six weeks, it is donated to a charity.

The system makes for a good turnover of merchandise for Second Edition shoppers and has the twofold effect of having the overload given to the indigent.

"We give mostly to St. Patrick Mission in the Cass Corridor and Northville State Hospital. The clothes are needed so desperately and are so greatly appreciated," Mrs. Feezey said.

the second floor of Farmington Community Center, and operated by the center's volunteers.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

As for the clothes that come to Second Edition, the two women say they run about \$4.50 with clothes brought in on consignment, where the donor gets 50 percent of the purchase price, and the clothes brought in as a contribution to the center.

"We encourage the out-and-out donations. We get 100 percent of those sales, and the donor gets a receipt for income tax purposes," Mrs. Feezey said.

As for their customers, the two women depend on word of mouth because they have no funds to advertise.

ADVERTISING so far has consisted of a couple of fashion shows. One was given for guests in the center to show what Second Edition has to offer. The other was given for seniors in The Gathering Place.

"And we'll be doing that again this

spring," Mrs. Feezey said.

"We very often have the one-time used bridal gown to show, and we always have a lot of night-on-the-town dresses, both long and short.

"We get designers jeans for the status-conscious teens fairly often but they go fast.

"For children that grow like the proverbial bean sprout, we have a big selection, always, of fine dresses, pants, shirts, jackets, sweaters.

"We discourage taking men's suits. A woman shopper is very reluctant to buy a man's suit, but men's shirts and sweaters are plentiful here.

"We send out our clothes to a lot of lovely places. We know many of them are going on cruises, to weddings and to some very festive parties."

Where will you hide in the event of nuclear attack?

By Shirlee Iden
staff writer

No longer is it a matter of war or peace. Today, the choice is work for peace or face omniscide.

That grim terminology, says Lillian Genser, director of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies at Wayne State University, is one we'll hear more and more.

"Omniscide means the end of civilized

life as we know it," Mrs. Genser says. "On the other hand, we can opt for peace, that state in which there is the maximum of justice and the minimum of violence."

An authority on human rights and

longtime fighter for human justice, Mrs. Genser has done research on the socialization of young children in order to develop peaceful, non-violent behavior.

In 1972 she received the Human Rights Award from the city of Detroit and in 1979 was named Michigan International Citizen by the Michigan International Council.

Last Tuesday, she shared her ideas about peace and conflict with a group of about 75 members of the Women's Association of North Congregational Church.

"WE CAN'T ignore conflict, violence and conflagration," she contends. "People have long accepted war as a logical means of solving conflict. This is no longer realistic."

Part of Mrs. Genser's message was imparted via a brief film showing the effects of the first atomic bomb, dropped on Hiroshima in August 1945.

Death, blindness, burns and subsequent radiation sickness are just some of the effects Japanese civilians suffered because of exposure to the bomb. Later complications include genetic deformities, sterility and various forms of cancer.

"Today's bombs are many hundreds of times more powerful," Mrs. Genser says.

'War is no longer a means to solve conflicts. We need people to people contacts more than arms sales.'

— Lillian Genser

"In the event of nuclear attack, with a 30-minute warning, what would you do, where would you hide?"

There are approximately 50,000 nuclear bombs in existence in the world today, most of them owned by the United States and Soviet Russia.

Americans have to stop practicing denial and say we can't let this happen," Mrs. Genser insists.

SIXTEEN YEARS AGO, she went to WSU to work on a doctorate, studying the effects of war and peace and attitudes about them.

"For most of those 16 years it was pretty lonely," she says. "Friends patting me on the head and encouraged me, but I was very much alone. Now the peace movement has changed. Recently, I have spoken before a series of groups."

"Catholics, Methodists, Congregationalists, and others too, have made a surge of real commitment to peace. We know that in the USSR there are hawks and doves."

"We have to begin putting ourselves in the shoes of the average citizen. The average person cares about survival. Even President Eisenhower, speaking about defense, once said 'Enough is enough.'"

Mrs. Genser contends we can influence our government. "Some 200,000 letters about Social Security convinced Ronald Reagan not to cut it," she points out.

In England, she said, the churches are taking the lead in the peace movement, and all over Western Europe, millions of people of all ages and persuasions are taking part.

"In this country many former military personnel are speaking out against nuclear proliferation," she says. "These

are people with knowledge, and they feel the situation is fraught with danger."

"THE FACT is a military build-up now will severely damage our economy for generations. The U.S. once was first in the world in exporting our manufactures, now we're fifth. The Japanese, who spend little on defense, are right up there."

Mrs. Genser explains that the Reagan budget plans now call for \$180 billion for defense and only \$18 million for arms control.

"The president says we could win a limited war, but all other experts say no winners will come out of a limited nuclear war."

"If we go the way Reagan wants it, we'll be spending \$34 million every hour for the next five years. There must be different priorities, and we must see to it they are implemented."

Mrs. Genser says since peace is a state in which there is maximum justice and a minimum of violence, "huge parts of the world won't have peace until they have justice."

"There has to be change, and we have to bring it about with letters and phone calls to our congressmen and senators."

History has always been taught in terms of war and the great men and heroes that came out of the conflicts, Mrs. Genser says.

"We've never emphasized peace and co-operation. Now war is no longer a logical means to solve conflict. We need people-to-people contacts more than arms sales."

"We have to remember that every long journey begins with a first, small step. I want you to take that first step."



MINDY SAUNDERS/staff photographer

Lillian Genser who runs the Center for Peace and Conflict at Wayne State University says nuclear weapons have erased war as a logical solution to conflict.

Doctor for asthmatics talks about pollution

The average individual breathes about 15 pounds of air a day. That air is supposed to be clear, tasteless, odorless and composed of only two substances: oxygen and nitrogen.

Dr. Bruce Dobin of Farmington Hills, who addressed a meeting last week of the Detroit Philosophical Society, spoke about industry's responsibility in the control of air pollution. He defined air pollution as "the dumping of garbage into the air."

"About 200,000,000 tons of pollution permeate our air in the United States annually," said Dobin, who specializes in treating asthma patients.

"Some of the gases include carbon monoxide, sulphur oxide, nitrous oxide, photochemical smog, radionuclides and atomic waste."

Dubin said that air pollution costs

Americans \$21 billion in medical bills and lost days from work annually. This averages out to about \$100 per person and includes the negative effects of pollution on the environment.

The inhalation of particulate matter affects approximately one out of five Americans, according to Dobin, and causes lung disorders such as emphysema and bronchitis. Cancer, neurological disorders and anemia also are caused by pollution.

"YOU MUST also remember that there is an economic toll on the work force through increased bills in Medicare and Medicaid," he said.

Dubin told his audience that the foundation for the environmental movement was philosopher Edmund Burke's relationship between society and gov-

ernment in 1790.

"Burke's society included those who are living, those who have died and those who are yet to be born," said Dobin.

"The environmentalists insist that the children to come must also have clean air to breathe."

Dubin added that one reason for pollution is that the air belongs to everyone. He said the tactic of shifting the blame results in lack of action taken to resolve the problem.

"Industry and business are tying up the courts with violations that date back to 1970," he said.

"They cry out that the standards of government are arbitrary, unrealistic and burdensome. They want the responsibility to be passed on to the consumer."

"The government has acknowledged

that it can't depend on industry because their goal is to make a profit, rather than to be concerned with public welfare."

As one possible solution, Dr. Dobin suggested the selling of pollution rights.

"This idea was introduced by Senator William Proxmire in the 1960s," he said, "and would allow each state to decide how much pollution they are going to allow."

"They could sell pollution rights to individual companies who would have to compete with others to pollute the air."

DR. DOBIN said that his patients have included workers who are exposed to industrial pollutants seven days a week and are developing lung disease.